## NEW YORK HERALD. JAMES GORDON BENNETT.

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TOWN FRINTING executed with neatness, cheapness, and the contained to the post paid with neatness, cheapness, and

ADVERTISEMENTS renewed every day. 

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING. ROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway-Buguren Beine

BOWERY THEATRE. BOWOFF-EQUESTRIAN PURPORU-MIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway-THE SYRES.

BERTON'S THEATRE, Chambers street-Uppen Ten WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway-Gentleman PROM

METROPOLITAN THEATRE, Broadway-ScHAMYL AMERICAN MUSEUM—Afternoon—Dumn Man or Man

WOOD'S VARIETIES-Mechanics' Hall, 472 Breadway. SUCKLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, 539 Broadway-Buck-WOOD'S MINSTRELS-Minstrell Hall, 444 Broadway.

New York, Friday, December 15, 1854.

dings in the Senate yesterday were un sting. A memorial from the New York Chamher of Commerce, asking for an expedition to reing inquiry as to the expediency of abolishing the pespital tax on seamen was adopted. Several unim pertant bills were passed, and the Senate adjourned

In the House yesterday Mr. Cutting introduced a joint resolution authorizing the President to adopt seasures to procure the erection of a lighthouse on Cape Race. The importance of this suggestion carnot be underrated, and it should be acted on with out any unnecessary delay. The memorial of the New York Chamber of Commerce relative to the Kane expedition, being the same as that offered in the Senate, was presented by Mr. Wheeler. In Committee of the Whole the discussion on the Nebraska question was renewed, Mr. Stephens of Georgia lenying that the result of the recent State election ted a desire on the part of the people for the sepeal of the Kansas-Nebraska bill. He was replied to by Mr. Campbell of Onio, and Washburne of Illinois. The debate was very spirited and exciting.

Our correspondence from Washington, published to day, will be found very interesting. A copy of the provisions of Mr. Bocock's bill for encourage ing enlistments in the navy, and to ensure better discipline in the service, is given. It provides rewards for good conduct, and punishment by confinement and forfeitures of pay and privileges for minor offences.

The steamship Prometheus arrived at New Orleans yesterday, with California dates to the 24th all, one hundred and sixty passengers, and one million in treasure. The general news is unimportant. Business at San Francisco continued about the same as at previous advices, but in the interior # was greatly depressed. The miners had suffered severely for want of rain, of which less than an average quantity had fallen. The loss of the whale ship City of New Bodford is reported, but no pa ticulars are given. The war steamer Susquehance would leave San Francisco on the 24th just, for this cliv. From Oregon the accounts of the atrocities of the Indians are melancholy. The Snakes had attacked an emigrant train, and murdered the entire party.

Our advices from Havana are to the 8th inst., but the intelligence, though interesting, cannot be regarded as important. Our correspondence, pu -liehed in another column, gives an epitome of the current news of the week previous to the departure of the steamer. The commander of the brig L'Es piegle, at Havana, stated that when at Jamaica he received a letter from the British Consul at Carthagens, dated October 10, which mentioned that the skop of war Albany was at that port at the above

Warrants were issued yesterday by Commissions Morton for the arrest of certain parties charged with forcibly expelling the agents of the owners of the ship New Era, lately wrecked on the Jersey coast taking possession of her. Officers were sent wn in a steamer to arrest the wreckers.

A meeting of property owners affected by the proposed Bloomingdale square was held last even It will be seen by the report of the proceed legs that the contemplated improvement is re gorded with great disfavor, and that the objectionwreed against it are certainly sufficiently importan command serious consideration.

Thomas F ancis Meagher delivered an eloquen cture last evening in the Broadway Tabernacle on the life and times of Daniel O'Connell. There

were fully three thousand persons present. The jury in the case of Tacker, tried in the King Sounty Court of Oyer and Terminer for the murde of his son, failed to agree upon a verdict after forty four hours deliberation, and were yesterday dis charged. They stood seven for conviction and fire

for acquittal. The Board of Aldermen transacted a considera able amount of business last evening. Claims were received from different parties, amounting to one \$14,000, for injuries to property by the proposed improvement in Canal and Walker streets. Petine were received from parties desirous of having the new City Hall built in Madison square. Coumunications were received from the Comptroller, stating the amount of money expended in defendng suits against the city, and setting forth hi seasons for refusing to pay \$200,000, the amount of the draft of the School Commissioners. A resolution was offered calling on the special committee on building the new City Hall to report on the ex pediency of adding two stories to the present City Hall, and making other improvements. It was reterred to the committee. The property clerk of the first district was directed to furnish the Board wish an account of property alleged to have been stolen within three mouths, and the disposition made of the same. The old Reynolds contract was called from the table and settled, and a new son tract was directed to be advertised for for tive years. A resolution was adopted for convening a ecial meeting of the Board for Tuesday next, for

he purpose of appointing police and civil clerks. The Board of Councilmen met last evening, and d under consideration some papers relative to the better working of the different departments. None of them, however, were of any public importance

Yesterday morning, about six o'clock, a fire took place in the confectionery establishment of Councilman Wild, situated at No. 451 Broadway, destroying the rear building, and considerably tajuring the adjoining property, causing a destruction of property to the amount of several thous and dollars.

report of the fire will be found elsewhere. flour market for all grades of State brands ned firm yesterday, with fair sales. Among the transactions were about 2,000 bbls. Canadian. sold in bond for export at \$9. When was steady. but without sales of mportance. Corn sold freely at 95c. a 96c. the latter figure for Southern new sellow, delivered, which we an dearce. The ions embrao d considerable los or export. pork sold at \$12 87 a \$ 3, and la d at 10c. The market for co ton was unsettled, and as a decline of full one-fourth of a cen ; er th.

The Abelition Journals and the Elavery Ques-tion...Northern and Southern Slavery.

The anti-slavery organs of the North, though considerably paralyzed by the recent movements of the Know Nothings, and the late defeat of the free soil emigration society squatters in the Territory of Kansas, still favor us with an occasional Jeremiad upon the horrible institution of Southern slavery in a social or political view.

The latest exposition of his kind is founded upon certai statistics from a supplemental of ficial document on the census, ust published from which it appears that the slaveholders and

up as follows :	States !	пау	De	summed.
Holders of 1 slave	106,683	AY.	256	Ag. No. of Staces, 68,820 264,207 565,355
Totals	Slave-			898,382 Ag. No. of Signer.
Holders of 10 and under 20				818,925
Holders of 20 and under 50.		AV.		
Holders of 50 and under 160 Holders of 100 and under 200		AV.	75 150	
Holders of 200 and under 30		AV.	250	
Holders of 300 and under 50		AV.		
Holders of 500 & under 1.00		AY.	750	
Holders of 1,000 and over	. 2	AV.	1500	3,090
Totals	. 92,257 855,188			2,625,030 898,382
Grand totals	.047,445			3,523,412
It is assumed that son	Shootile company		the	THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE

holders, or less than one-fourth of the whole number, control the politics of the South and of the general government-the South controlling the North at Washington through the said eighty thousand slaveholders.

We have no doubt that many deluded people on the slavery question will read over the above statistics, and the estimate deduced from them, with sensations of sur prise, mortification and shame-with sur prise that the destinies and policy, foreign and domestic, of this mighty republic of twentyfive millions of souls, are managed by eighty thousand slaveholders; and with sensations o mortification and shame that the free North should tamely consent to this most extraordinary slaveholding despotism. Our credulous Northern anti slavery fanatics, shocked at the social depravities of Southern slavery as they have recived them, will be puzz'ed to know how such a degrading and demoralizing insti tution can wield such unlimited power among a people so intelligent and free as the millious that are required to give shape and direction to our political affairs.

Let us briefly look into this. If Southern slavery were the horrible institution depicted by the abolition journals, and if Southern slaveholders were the ungodly aristocracy of semi-savages they are represented to be, their influence in our national affairs, would indeed be wonderful and shameful. But the "peculiar institution" of the South, though a more fixed and definite form of slavery than the servitude of the North, is practically, if the census may be relied upon, far less deplorable in its results. So, too, if Southern slaveholders constitute an all-powerful aristocracy in their section, we have an aristocracy in the North even more despotic and powerful. It is the same thing in another form-sn aristocracy of capital. In the South the capitalists are slaveholders-in the North they are bankers, financiers, manufacturing and other corporations. In the South, the institution of slavery and the affairs of the slaveholding aris tocracy work regularly, smoothly, and comparatively free from those dreadful fluctuations between capital and labor which in the North, are so productive of suffering and crime.

As between Southern slavery and Northern servitude let us take for example a cotton factory at Lowell and a Georgia cotton plantation. In the vitiated atmosphere of the factory the operatives work some fourteen hours per day-on the cotton plantation the slaves labor in the wholesome air of the open fields from sun to sun, with liberal intervals for rest and refreshment. If the factory operative becomes disqualified for service-alas! too frequently-no other alternative is left the poor unfortunate than the almshouse or starvation. If the plantation slave becomes disabled from accident, or from disease, or the infirmities of age, he has a lien upon his master's plantation, and is provided for. His health and his master's interest go together. Such as these are among the practical differences between Northern servitude and Southern slavery. But the most striking difference is in this-that the cotton factory shortens the life of the operative, while the laborer upon the Southern plantation not unfrequently survives to the good old age of a hundred years.

Look we at the working, in the aggregate, of the Southern as compared with the Northern system of servitude, and that of the South presents itself in a still more favorable light. The corporation of a cotton factory fails, a thousand poor people are instantly thrown on of employment, many with families, and most of them with no other means than their daily labor for their daily bread. Our money market is tight-very tight-the work on roads and canals, and in manufacturing and all business operations, is fearfully reduced Thousands of laboring people are thus thrown out of work, the most predent among them baving scarcely more than the scanty sixpenny savings of the last summer for the winter's subsistence. And this is not the worst of it. The worst is yet to come. But, even as it is we venture to say that there is more positive suffering, more distress and crime, resulting from the evils of destitution alone, among the poor of this city of New York with its seven bundred thousand souls, than can be found among all the three millions and five bundred thousand slaves of the South from all causes combined.

There is no conflict between the slaveholding aristocracy of the South and their laborers. Their interests are blended, and they work harmonionsly together. There is a continual conflict between capital and labor in the North, and continual fluctuations in the money market, resulting from shinplaster inflations or contractions, invariably producing rule and misery to the working classes, from which all classes in the South-whites and blacksare comparatively exempt. Our penitedtiaries and jails, asylums and aimhouses, are filled to overflowing-thousandof men, women and children are perishing around us for want of bread, while our merchants are exporting it abroad. All these things are the practical results of the struggle between capital and labor between the employers and their workmen in the North, inevitably weakening the laborer and strengthening the capitalist as his merciless master. These evils of the Northern social system, as between capital and labor, are rapidly, and, ust now fearfully increasing, while in the South the relations between master and slave secure to the

latter food and raiment, though the crops of the

plantation be concerned by fire, or a nk in the

We apprehend but there are many among our anti-slavery prop e who will cease to regard the instituti n of South re slavery w shudde ing and b rror in the calm tion of such pracical c mparisons a these. Next they w l cease to w nder a the po'itical influence wie ded by the she shold re of the South. Their very lives depend upon the maintenance of their social system. Its protection is guaranteed by the North in the federal con titun, and hus th y of the South seek to maintain it. Noth ne more. Whatev political influence they may have is legitimately exercised for the great object of a lf-preservation against Northern f-natic, demagogues and tra tors We on y fear that of la e roo many southern men have been overlooking this great duty in the enjoymen of the spoils of the administration. In we are ealing with on Northern anti-slavery organs. Will they c ndescend. with at least a show of ju tice, to give us the benefit of their philosophy concerning the political influence of the aristocracy o' capi al in the North, and its practical socia results as compared with the slaveholdin; ar st cracy of the South?

We have been looking into these statistics of the census, and commend the attention of our anti-slavery organs to the comparative figures respecting crime and pauperism to the North and the South. Between Uncle Tom in his cabin and the free Northern working man without employment, criven to the almshouse from want, or perishing in a filthy cellar with his fam ly, because he can get no work, he at least may think that Uncle Tom has the best of it. Let our anti-slavery organs pursue their researches among the statistics of the census. We only insist upon it that they shall not run over all the beggars in our streets to preach their hollow sympathy for Uncle Tom. Nothing

FLAGG'S DEFENCE.—We publish elsewhere s long story written by Comptroller Flagg in de fence o his recent conduct and in reply to the strictures to w ich it has given rise. The point thereof is that Compton er Fl gg hal no suthority to pay the deb s of the c ty without a special appropriation there'or; and cousequently, those officials whose salaries were omitted from the list of a propriations, have no claim to be paid. This argument mi, ht be worth something if the duty of making up the appropriations devolved on the unpaid clerkor officials; but as Mr. F agg is appointed ag holds office for no other purpose but to see that all the necessary appropriations are made b the proper body, it seems rather absurd for him to say hat his neglect involves another man's loss. He is the financial executive of the city, for Mayor Westerve t does not care to dis charge this branch of his duties: and as such he is bound to present every appropriation of the Common C uncil, and have it passed upon He now says, I did not do this, and therefore though the city certainly owes so much to so and-so, he cannot be paid. Such logic deservethat in case of further d fliculty, Flagg should

be made to suffer himself for his neglect. There is no more strict constructionist alive than Flagg in questions involving a clerk's salary, or a newspaper bill; and hence he has gained in certain ill-in'ormed quarters a reputation for honesty. But, strange to say, thi feature of his character is singularly change able. In matters where large amounts are concerned, and Flagg's friends are interested, the country does not coatain a mor-liberal latitudinarian. He will pass over a ob of half a million, but make a clerk' family starve by raising some quibble to prevent the payment of his salary. Just so while a public creditor is refused his due, fo want of an appropriation, Mr. Flagg usurp control over two millions of county moneys. over which he has no authority whatever, and which ought to be in the hands of the Chamber-

The eyes of the public are being opened by the last report from Flagg which showed that the sum required for the year's service exceed ed thirteen millions of dollars Other discove ries remain to be made. The full effect of the million of dollars now lying on depos t in the Mechanics' Bank, and used for stockjobbing purposes by the friends of that institution, is not yet fully apprecia ed. It is the mi-use of sums of money of this description which enables operators to control the grain market and helpto keep up the price of flour. Flagg not only lets our tax bill increase, but-from what mo tive he knows bes:--assists the operators of Wall street in monopolizing the necessaries of life, and contributes largely to protract our present straitened circum-tances.

HARD TIMES AND HIGH PRICES-THE COAL Dury .- Ev. rybody is complaining of hard times, every body is suffering from high prices. Coal eight dollars per ton, flour twelve dollars per barrel, wages com ng down, employment falling short on all sides, beef, pork and muttoo at double the prices of a year or two ago, justify these universal complaints. Hard times are upon us, and price are high. Superadded to the exorbitant charges on the market for bread tuffs and provisions, our codfish aristocracy find that it goes hard to p y two or three dollars for a ticket to the Opera Ia view of hings, if such operatic managers as Moses H. Grinnell should apply for a benefit we should ake it as nothing more than one of the natural consequences of hard times and high prices. Can't we have a reduction in the price of coal or flour, or pork, or something, to sustain the Opera? Let Mr. Walbridge hurry up his bill before Congress for the repeal of the duty on coal. Not only the poor, but the codfish aristocracy and the Opera depend upon it. Twenty tons of coal go a short way in heating the new Opera House. The last hope of the Opera is the repeal of the duty on coal.

Nor ABSURD .- One of our Washington correspondents speaks of the resolution of Mr. Cling man, proposing a commission from our government to the European bell gerents in behalf of peace, as an ab urdity. We look open it here in an entirely different tight. We think the resolution by no means abourd, but a sen-ible and statesmanlike proposition. We know that Russia would receive the commission proposed with respect and attention; and we know, too. that France and England are becoming seriously emberrassed and di heartened at the present and prospective expenses of the war. In vincible at home, and all powerful in our moral and commercial influence with both France and England, we are convinced that a peace commission of prudest and sensible men from the United States would meet with marked atten tion at London and Paris. And the effects of this war upon our financial, commercial and business interests of all kinds are such as woold justify, in the eyes of the world, the proposed commission as a wise and p o er me lia on in behalf of pea e. We are ealy inclued to think that he beligeren would be gad to avail bemselves of our med a ion; and with this opinion we h pe the Mr. C in man will urge his resolution upon the House. Even the d scussion of the sub ect n C ngress may have its influence n the pacifi at on of Europe. Let Mr. C ingman speak to the resolu o , and we shall be surpr se i it oe not ecome a leading topic of c aversation among all the cabinet and di loma ic ci cles of the European

MR. BADGER'S PROPOSES INCREASE OF PAY. Mr. Bauger has introduced a pr p si ion in o the Senate for the increase—fif y per cent—of the pay of the members of Congress Very well. Guthrie can spare the money, and an increase of pay might stop a good many of the leakages of C ngress onal cor uption. Considering, too, the dignity of the office and the size and wealth o the country, he Pre ident's salary should also be increased to fifty thousand a year; the members o the Cabinet should have at least twelve thou-and; but above all, our min sters abroad-especially at London, Paris, and St. Peter burg-should be voted an increase of their sa aries to fifteen or twenty thousand dollars a year. To live respectably in their official position, our ministers at London and Paris have, up to this t me, been compelled to draw upon their private resources to meet the deficiencies of their salaries. If the government were backrupt it might be excused. perbaps in such exactions upon private individuals for public expenses; but Guthrie has a urplus of twenty millions, and ought to pay his legitimate bills, even for an occasional dinper or so. We suggest, therefore, to Mr. Badger to extend his increase of pay to the Presient and the Cabinet, and especially to our diplomatic corps. There is no other alternative left for our diplomats; for Marcy has tried the experiment of old clothes, and it has sigpally failed. Call upon Guthrie to shell out the money.

MISS BROWN'S LECTURE ON SLAVERY .- We publish to-day the lecture of the Reverend Miss Antoinette L. Brown on the slavery question, delivered at the Tabernacle the other evening. Miss Brown is a leader among the women's right's women, and a preacher of the Gospel somewhere in that sparsely settled country, of weich Gerit Smith is the patroon. And this calling her away from her parochial duties in the interior down to New York to lecture on slavery shows that the mighty men of the cause are backing out, and the Abolition Society here has been compelled to fall back upon their reserves among the Bloomers. Neither Hale, nor Seward, nor Sumner, nor Chase have been forthcoming. They are evidently fright-ned at the terrible doings of the Know Nothings, especially in Massachusetts. Giddings, of all the batch, has proved bimself a man of pluck. He sees that the antislavery societies are in danger of being annihilated by the Know Nothings, and that unless com-thing is done to keep up the agitation these Northern abolition cliques and coteries will soon te laid upon the same shelf with the fossil remains of the old whig and democratic parties and the administration. So Giddings has fired a ay, right and left, in Congress, the first chance, and in the absence of other men of pluck to support him, the courageous advocate of woman's rights, entitled to all the rights of woman, the dignified and handsome Bloomer, the angelic and Reverend Antoinette L. Brown. still rejoicing in "single blessedness," comes to the rescue of Giddings. It is a pity that so fine a person as this feminine divine should be ed so far astray by the jack o'-lantern of abolitionism. Pity that some dashing cavalier of a Southern slaveholder will not undertake to change her views upon this subject. Who knows but that she might be made as amiable and rational on the slavery question as John Mitchel in view of an "Alabama cotton plan-

## THE LATEST NEWS BY MAGNETIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS,

Later News from California and Oregon.

ARRIVAL OF THE PROMETHEUS AT NEW ORLEANS—
CONTINUED DEPRESSION IN BUSINESS—LACK OF RAIN AT THE MINES-LOSS OF A WHALESHIP-NEW ORLHANS, Dec 14, 1854.

The steamship Prometheus, from San Juan, Nicaragua, has arrived. She brings California dates to the 24th ult , and 168 passengers. Our files of California papers contain very little in lligence of general interest.

The commercial advices from San Francisco represent affairs in about the same condition as at the date of our previous advices. It was not anticipated that ther would be any material change for the better until the ommencement of the new year. Business at most places in the interior was extremely

week preceding the departure of the Nicaragua steamer, of three ships only from Atlantic ports, to wit:—The Ar-cola, on the 16th, and the Contest on the 18th, both

from New York, and the Fearless on the 19th, from Bos San Francisco for New York on the 24th of December.

The Uni'ed States steamship Mississippi had arrived cort had not been fixed upon.

The San Francisco papers record the loss of the whale-ship City of New Bedford, but those at hand furnish no

miners were in some localities greatly in want of water, and were anxiously expecting rain, of which less than the average quantity has fallen thus far this season. Advices from Oregon state that the numerous and powerful tribe\_of Indians called "Snakes," had comnced war upon the whites, and slaughtered a whole train of immigrants.

The advices from San Juan represent the revolution in Nicaragua as still in progress, but we do not learn that either party has yet achieved any decided advantage The British eloop-of-war Vesta, and the steam frigate Termagant, were at Greytown.

The steamship Daniel Webster left here to-day for

THE SOUTHERN MAIL-STEAMBOATS ON THE POTO MAC RIVIR-LOSS OF LIFE ON THE STEAMBOAT GIPSEY; ETC. BALTIMORE, Dec. 14, 1854.

The steamboats on the Potomac river have resumed their trips, and the Southern mail is now arriving here regularly once more. Ten lives were lost by the burning of the steamboat

Gipsey, running on the Mississippi river. The vessel itself is also an entire loss, with a valuable freight. Fifty bales of cotton on the landing were also destroyed by fire

Fire at Buffalo.

BUFFALO, Dec. 14, 1854. The distillery of Mesers. Truscott & Thomas, in this city, was destroyed by fire last night. The loss is about \$15,000-insurance \$9,000. Some 4,000 bushels core were burned.

From Louisville. STATE TEMPERANCE CONVENTION-MR. CARPENTE:

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 14, 1854. A State temperance convention is now in session here, which is numerously attended by delegates from all parts of the State, who are discussing the propriety of

insting candidates for the offices of Governor and

whip, of Fourbon, for Governor, and Col. James G. Hardy democrat, of Parren, for Lieutenant Governor.

Capt. Cummings has been acquitted at Helena on the charge of murder. The examination of witnesses in his

consumed five days, after which the proattorney entered a nolle prosequi. He has, however, been re-arrested, and is to be tried on a charge of arson

Chapin's trial had commenced. Mr. Carpenter, who was shot by Mr. Perkins a few days since, at Covington, is slowly recovering.

The number of hogs killed here this season, up to this date, amounts to one hundred and ninety-six thousand.

The weather is quite pleasant. In the canal there is but three feet of water. Emeute in the Boston Custom House. MEETING OF OFFICE-SEEKERS—REMOVAL OF WHIGS DEMANDED—THE SPOILS INSISTED ON.

Bosrov, Dec. 14, 1854.
The democrats of the Twelfth ward of this city met last night, and passed a series of resolutions setting forth that a majority of those employed in the ap-praiser's department of the Custom House are whigs, or are doing all they can to pull down the national istration, and that a request which had been made by the ward and county committee for their removal was re-jected by the appraisers, Messra. Allen and Crocker. The President is therefore called upon to remove these appraisers and appoint true democrats in their place. It was suggested that Fletcher Webster be included with Mesars. Allen and Crocker, but it was concluded that public opinion would be against such proscription of the son of Daniel Webster. It is said that the real trouble is, that "Know Nothingism" has obtained a foothold in the Boston Custom House.

From washington,
THE WHEELING BRIDGE CASE. THE BREMEN CONSUL-

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14, 1854. In the case of the State of Pennsylvania es. Wheeling and Belmont Stridge Co, the argument of the reveral motions for a writ of sequestration against the corporation for an attachment against its officers, and for a writ of assistance to execute the decree of this court, and for taxation of costs, was continued by the Hon. Reverdy Johnson in opposition, and concluded by Edwin M. Stanton, Esq., in support.

John Welff has ceased to act at St. Louis as Consul for fremen, and no one will be appointed in his place for the

Heavy Failure at Providence.

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 14, 1854. The liabilities of Messrs. Hill, Carpenter & Co., exten sive wool dealers, of this city, do not exceed, we under stand, the sum of about five hundred thousand dollars The banks here will not probably lose a dollar by their failure, the notes held by them being all protected by endorsers. The bank that holds the most of their paper —say from tep to fifteen thousand dollars, all of which is endorsed—the a capital of over sixty thousand dollars.

A large share of their paper is held by men who bought

The Effect of the Pacific's News at New Orleans.

The important advices per the Pacific were published here yesterday noon, almost at the same moment that the steamer arrived at her dock at New York, and had the effect to suspend business for the day. This morning the cotton market opened at a decided decline from previous prices, and sales have been made this forenoon of about 4,000 bales at a decline of one quarter of s cent per lb.

We now quote middling (1 o'clock P. M.) at 8c.

The New Steamboat M. Sandford.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 14, 1854.

The new steamer M. Sandford passed the Capes of Markets.

PHILADRIPHIA STOCK BOARD.
PHILADRIPHIA, Dec. 14, 1864.
Money is unchanged. Slocks are dull. Reading, i
Morris Canal, 10%; Long Island Railroad, 12, Ponns,
vania Railroad, 41; Pennsylvania Fives, 79%.

Extraordinary Iron Steamship Building at

Some few months ago we learned from Commodore Hoboken, that an iron steamer, of the most extraordi pary construction, was building there for the United States government by Mr. Robert L. Stevens. The Commodore invited us either to visit the yard or send a reporter for the purpose of examining her, which we did in compliance with his invitation, and believing that it was a matter of public interest. But before giving the result of our visit and inquiries we will state a few facts in relation to the vessel itself.

Some time in the year 1840 or '42, Mr. Stevens pro posed to the government to build a floating steam bat-tery of iron, as a protection, in the event of a war, to the harbor of New York. By order of the government, experiments were made to test the correctness of this theory, under the supervision of a board of navy and and Col. Totten of the other. The result proved four and a half inches in thickness of wrought iron, to be a perfect defence against a sixty-four pound solld shot, fired at tes yards distance from the target. Upon their report of to enter into a contract with Ro sert L. Stevens for buil-ing a steam battery upon his plan for the defence of the harbor of New York. After the execution of this agree mest, a dry dock was constructed capable of contaming a vessel of the size required by the contract, togethe with shops, steam engine, furnaces, tools, &c. The progress of the vessel was, however, delayed for want of the necessary appropriations, until about two years ago, when Congress again directed the Secretary of the Na y to proceed with it under the contract. Some further delay, however, occurred, occasioned by the necessity of enlarging the dry dock for her reception. The bat or enarging the dry dock for ner reception. The bat-tery, as now constructing, is over four hundred feet in length on the water line. Since the completion of this dock, considerable progress has been made in the works and the ship is now, with the exception of a few ribs, completely in frame, and about one-third plank ed up with heavy iron plates. A few days ago, however, in consequence, we are told, of a severe pressure in the money market, one hundred and forty men who were en-

These are all the facts which we are in posses: and it is almost unnecessary to say how unsatisfactory they are. Desiring to publish a full description of the vessel, one of our reporters, as we have said in compli-ance with the invitation extended to us by Commodore Sloat, who is superintending her construction, paid a visit some months ago to the ship yard in Hoboken. As neither Commodore Shoat nor Mr. Stevens could be found at that time, he explained the object of his visit to the person in charge of the yard, but was told that it ossible, and that no one was admitted into the yard except the workmen and a few of Mr. Stevens' personal triends. Two or three days after, our reporter called at the residence of Mr. Stevens, in Barciay street, believing that it was only necessary to see him to obtain all the particulars in relation to his ship. After one or two unsuccessful attempts he at last succeeded in finding that gentleman at home, when the following conversation took place:—

REPORTING—Mr. Stevens, I presume.

Mr. STRVINS, (looking over the top of a paper which he was reading)—Yes, sir; what do you wint with mel REPORTING—I am me of the reporters of the New York REPORTING—I am me of the reporters of the New York REMAND, and called for the purpose of getting a description of the bomb proof steamship at present in course of construction in your yard for the United States government. xcept the workmen and a few of Mr. Stevens' personal

mment.

Mr. Strvens—Well, sir, I don't wish to make the mattr public, and cannot say anything about it. It would
e no benefit to me to have anything published about

ter public, and cannot say anything about it. It would be no benefit to me to have anything published about the vessel at this time.

REPORTER—As it is a subject in which the public, and expecially New Yorkers, are interested, Mr. Bonnett is desirous of giving them all the information that he can obtain about it.

Mr. Strang—It would be of no use to the public to have what I am doing in my yard. I can't give anything concerning the vessel.

REPORTER—I have a few facts concerning the contract, which was made fen years ago with the government, but it is necessary that I should have a detailed description of the vessel telore making it public.

MR. STRUES—I don't want you to publish anything at all in repart to my vessel. As I said before, the public have no interest in it, and it is not necessary that hey should know anything concerning my arrangements. In the should know anything concerning my arrangements. In the should know anything concerning my arrangements. In the should know anything concerning my arrangements. As I said before, the public have no interest in it, and it is not necessary that he should know anything concerning my arrangements. As I said before, the public have no interest in it, and it is not necessary that he will be supposed to the bomb proof iron steamship for the defence of the barber of New York.

A letter was published yesterday, by one of the firm, in a morning paper, but as it gave a very brief and unsatisfactor) description of the vessel, we sent the same reporter to Mr. Stevens, with the request that he would further him with all the details supposing, as the matter he dair ady been made public by the firm, there could be no further objection to the publication of all the particulars. The second interview, however, was as unsuccessful as the first, as the following conversation will show—

FITCHIE—I called upon you, Mr. Stevens, some menths ago, in relation to your bomb-proof iron steamer, with the request from Mr. Bennett that you would

furnish me with all the facts from which a detailed of scription of it might be given. Here is a letter which I ut derstand has been published by your brother, Mr. John C. Stevens, in one of the morning papers, but as it do not en'er into any of the particulars in regard to it construction of the vessel, and as the undertaking is novel one, I should like to get a full account of it from the construction of the research of the construction of the vessel, and as the undertaking is novel one, I should like to get a full account of it from the construction of the

Mr. STEVENS-I do not know that I can give

Mr. STREEN-I do not know that I can give you any more theo is given in that letter, and I should thank you could make up a statement in some way from that. I know that your newspapers never like to copy from one another; but you can alter the language, you know, giving the facts as they are stated there.

RITCHIE-But the letter does not give a description of the vessel, and that is what I want.

Mr. STREEN-Well, I can't give any more at present, but I will see my brother in a day or two and we will consult about it; and you, in the meantime, can write out your account from the letter, and let me see it when it is written, so that I can correct it if necessary.

Here ended the second interview. The first time our reporter cailed on the Invitation of Commodore Slock, and Mr. Stevens, who is merely an agent of the government, had no right or authority to exclude the public from the knowledge of a matter in which they are interested.

Mr. Stevens is a respectable shipbuilder, but he should have learned before this that the assumption of such arbitrary authority as he has manifested will not be tolerated by the people from any of their servants. The public would like to know, for instance, how the two hundred and fifty thousand dollars appropriated by Congress have been expended.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE-"SCHARYL."-This melo-dra METROPOLITAN THEATER—"SCHANYL."—This melo-dra-matic spectacle was presented, for the first time in this city, at the Metropolitan, on Monday, and has been played since to fair houses. "Schamy!" is one of those remarkably strong melo-dramas, for the production of which the Ambigu, Paris, and the Standard theatres, London, are eminently distinguished. The plot is misty— It purports to detail events in the life of the Circassian-bers, who first hero, who first appears to us as a "fast" young man, next as a sort of Massniello in a small way, and finally, after a variety of adventures—in which he escapes from large numbers of foes, falls in love with a Russian belle, makes severe remarks about the Czar, and talks a great deal about literty—he whips all the Russians, and is unanimously chosen Iman of Greassin—a little difficulty as to his legitimacy being settled through the kindness lease her son from an unpleasant predicament. After peace is concluded, we have the "envoys of the Western Powers"—France and America (!)—offering their ald to

Schamyl against Russia!

There are many incidents in the course of the piece, but the above seems to be the gist of the plot. There is a Russian and a Circassian army, in a very lax state of discipline—a brass band in New York uniforms—a corpe de ballet that sadly needs training—several processions—some banners—a great deal of gunpowder and colored some banners—a great deal of gunps were and colored fires, as well as other adjuncts which are generally seen in this style of piece; but the whole is thrown toge-ther so "loosely and unprofitably" that it is impossible to treat upon the subject in a serious vein. The mili-tary art and the science of diplomacy must have been inknown in Russia and Circassia at the period of piece (1832.) The scenery is new and some of it is good, but the carpenters have not done their work well, and vacant spaces between parts of set scenes interfere slightly with the effect. The raft scene at the end of tho

fourth act was good.

The cast of characters included every person in the company. The parts, with the single exception of Schamyl, are all bad, and the language is trash. Mr. Anderson walked through his part, and displayed no animation except in one speech. He did not look like Schamyl, who had in 1832 red hair and whiskers, sprinkled with gray, while Mr. Anderson wore black hair and a pretty moustache. The prevailing style of complexion among the Metropolitan Russians and Circassians was brunette. We have heretofore believed that the inhabi-Eddy played "an American adventurer," who helps to whip the Russians, and it was rather good than otherwise, although there were too many allusions to this glo-rious country. Mr. Canoll was the villain of the piece. Doubtless he is a great scoundrel, but he was so very mysterious about it that the audience was in doubt as to his intentions. He was always folled, however. The rest of the acting was good, and the Circassians, in the fourth act, made the best stage mob we have ever seen.

The tableauz vicants in the third act were very pretty; and in the same scene Miss Dawes gave us some artistic poses, clever tours de force and expressive panton Mrs. Jordan's performance of Olga was the best piece of acting in the piece.

The spectacle would be much more effective with more attention to detail in the carpenter's and wardrobe de-partments. In a piece of this kind, success is only to be

U. S. Commissioner's Court.

Before Geo. W. Morton, Esq.

THE NEW ERA WRECK AND WRECKERS.

DEC. 14.—Application was made to the Commissioner this morning for warrants of arrest against several paries who are charged as being a gang of wreckers and robbers, and with having expelled the agents of the owners from, and taken forcible possession of, the wreck of the steamship New Era, now lying on the Jersey shore.

shore. Mr. Morton issued warrants for the arrest of the offen-ders, and immediately sent down a steamer with United States officers to take them into custody.

Wuige's Schledam Schnapps. As this cele-brated medical stimulant has within the last few years made a great noise in the world, and risen to so high a degree of popularity for its excellence as a tosic and

made a great noise in the world, and risen to so high a degree of popularity for its excellence as a tonic and beverage, we have thought it might not be uninteresting to our readers to learn a few facts regarding its origin and manufacture—especially when we recollect that many people generally take more or less pleasure in knowing the history of everything they eat, drink and wear, nowadays. While in New York, a short time since, we visted the celebrated establishment of Udolpho Wolle, whose Schiedam schuapps have become celebrated throughout the length and breadth of the Union. We had no idea of the extent of the manufacture of the article for consumption in this country alone, until we examined for ourselves, and saw sufficient evidence of Mr. Wolfe's immense business. The liquor is merely put up in bottles in New York, the gin being imported in pipes directly from his manufactury in Holland.

Three very large stores in Beaver atreet are exclusively devoted to bottling, coveloping, boxing, packing and storing. A large number of hands are kept in constant employment, and the average quantity put up per day exceeds four hundred dozen. His callars are filled with pipes of the schnapps, bonded under the Custom Houseseal, and at the time of our visit we should think there was a sufficient supply to float a seventy-four gun shipprovided the could be empited into one of the government docks. We understood from Mr. Wolfe that his bill for printing labels alone amounted to from ton to twelve thousand dollars yearly, and we presume his advertising expenses will equal that sum, if not greatly exceed it.

As to the merits of the Scheidam schnapps, we will only state that it has been endorsed by many of the first physicians in the country, as containing valuable usediculal qualities, and recommended by them as beneficial practice, as a directle, tonic and restorative, with evident success.

The highest chemical authority in this country has endorsed the schnapps as purer than the best french transity in procurable at all

Season of Fura.—Gentin, Ro. 214 Broadway, solicits the attention of the ladies to his magnificent assortment of superb fura, made up in the newest and most fashforable styles, and consisting of full sets of Hudson's Eny sable, Russian sable, royal ermine, stone marten, chinchilla, rock marten, mink, &c. His stock of muffs, victorines, and cuffs, be is confident, has never been surpassed by any ever submitted to the good taste and judgment of the ladies of New York and vicinity. An immense stock of gentlemen's fur and plush caps, of the most recherche patterns, combining elegance with warmth, has also been opened, and all who desire to fortify themselves against the blatts of winter are invited to call and examine them. Ladies' fur and felt bonnets, together with an elegant variety of lovely bats for children. GENIN, 214 Broadway, opposite St. Paul's.

Awful Secrifice of Ladies' Underclothis dress capes, and head dresses.—The subscriber haviness induced to purchase an invoice of the above articlet at a reduction of sixty-fee per cent upon their act value, would respectfully acquaint the lady patrons the bazaar, that they can avail themselves of this avaninge during to-day, Fiday, 15th; Saturday, 15th and Monday, 18th instant, from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. Tinvoice crusists in part of ladies' linen and woollen usergarments, ladies' breakfast and dress capes, he dresses, children's merine, silk and embroidered dress also, children's merine, silk and embroidered dress.